

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2005-04

WHEREAS, I, John Hoeven, Governor of the State of North Dakota, by the authority vested in me, do proclaim a flood disaster for North Dakota based on increasing damages, as well as initial and preliminary damage assessment reports, received on the severe thunderstorm systems, which have produced abnormal amounts of rainfall, ground saturation, hail, high winds and tornadoes statewide, and continuing flooding in Devils Lake Basin, beginning June 1 and continuing.

A prolonged extratropical cyclone has focused energy to produce overwhelming severe weather systems across the state that continue to cause riverine and overland flooding, evacuation of families, isolation of rural residents and damage to homes and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, I directed the N.D. Division of Homeland Security of the Department of Emergency Services to request a joint Federal, State, Tribal and local Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) of the damaged areas, which took place June 21-28.

The PDA documented severe impacts to private property, transportation infrastructure, agricultural interests, and public, tribal and private sewage systems, as well as water and power utilities, and other significantly improved property; and

WHEREAS, losses encompass agricultural properties, including prevented planting, damage to emerging crops and loss of planted crops; damages to public infrastructure including, water and power utilities, roads, bridges and community sewage systems; and residential properties including, housing, private sewage and water systems, as well as public, tribal and private expenses for protective measures and debris clearance; with resulting conditions that threaten the health and safety of residents and the economic wellbeing of the state; and

NOW THEREFORE, I order total utilization of the North Dakota State Emergency Operations Plan, its procedures, attachments and appendices, to respond to the situation, assist local officials, alleviate hardships, and implement appropriate recovery actions and future mitigation measures to limit the hardships and impact of this disaster, and facilitate restorations of services and infrastructure.

This order is issued upon the following basis and for the following reasons:

- 1. The Governor is vested with the executive authority pursuant to Article V, Section 1, of the North Dakota Constitution.
- 2. The Governor is vested with statutory authority to issue executive orders, minimize or avert the effects of a disaster or emergency pursuant to Chapter 37-17.1 of the North Dakota Century Code.
- 3. A coordinated and effective effort of appropriate government departments is required to minimize the impact of emergencies and disasters in this state.

Executed at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 1st day of July 2005.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

Attest:

/s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State